

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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P R O C E E D I N G S

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, January 25, 1977

10:00 o'clock a.m.

DOYLE G. BERRY,  
Chairman

Wild Life and Fisheries  
Building, Room 102  
400 Royal Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,  
Reporter.



Helen R. Dietrich, Inc.  
*Stenotypists*

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# P R O C E E D I N G S

. . . The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission convened at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on Tuesday, January 25, 1977, at the Wild Life and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, Doyle G. Berry, Chairman, presiding.

## PRESENT WERE:

- DOYLE G. BERRY, Chairman
- DONALD F. WILLE, Vice Chairman
- MARC DUPUY, JR., Member
- J. C. GILBERT, Member
- JERRY JONES, Member
- JEAN LAPEYRE, Member
- HARVEY CLAY LUTTRELL, Member
- J. BURTON ANGELLE, Director

## A G E N D A

### DR. LYLE ST. AMANT

1. Request from Charles H. Lawrence, Jr. for  
renewal of permit to remove sand and  
gravel from the Mississippi River  
between Mile 406.0 and Mile 417.0 AHP,

(6)



along the Togo Island Bar and adjacent to land owned by the applicant.

2. Request from Atlas Construction Co., Inc. for (8)  
renewal of their permit to dredge fill material from the Mississippi River in the vicinity of CS 1941+00 to CS 1840+00 in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.
3. Request from Atlas Construction Co., Inc. for (9)  
renewal of their permit to dredge fill material from the Mississippi River, left descending bank between Mile 134.3 and Mile 136.0 above the Head of the Passes, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana.
4. Request from Atlas Construction Co., Inc. for (11)  
renewal of permit to remove sand, gravel and fill materials from the Mississippi River at Mile 148.5 AHP, left descending bank near Lutchet, at Paulina, St. James Parish.
5. Request from T. L. James & Company, Inc. for (12)  
renewal of permit to remove sand, gravel and fill materials from the Mississippi



River, right descending bank, near Boothville, for use in construction of Fort Jackson to Venice Highway.

6. Request from T. L. James & Company, Inc. for renewal of permit to remove fill material from the Profit Island Chute on the Mississippi River in East Baton Rouge Parish. (13)

MR. RICHARD K. YANCEY

7. Payment to Ducks Unlimited. (18)
8. Donation of camp at Sunk Lake, Concordia Parish, by Mr. T. J. Guido of Natchez, Mississippi. *Three Rivers WMA* (20)
9. Discussion of steel shot waterfowl plan. (25; 53)

MR. ALLAN ENSMINGER

10. Ratification of right-of-way to South Louisiana Tidal Water Control Levee District on Pointe au Chien Refuge. (15)

MR. KENNETH SMITH

11. Request from Delta Exploration Company to conduct a seismographic survey on Lake D'Arbonne. (26)

MR. TED O'NEIL



12. Discuss extension of muskrat and nutria trapping on a certain tract of land in Vermilion Parish. (28)

MR. JOE HERRING

13. Resolution recognizing National Wildlife Week. (32)
14. Extend timber cutting contract on Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area. (34)
15. Discussion of Rules and Regulations for trails on Wildlife Management Areas. (41)

OTHER BUSINESS

16. Set date for February meeting. (59)
17. Set date for Hearing on Appeal. (59)

NOTE: The following items not on the printed agenda were also considered:

- Approval of minutes of last meeting. (6)
- Grassy Lake Campsite donation. (24)
- Extension of trapping season, Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area. (38)
- Gill meeting hearings. (59)
- Date of Seasons-Bag Limits meeting, Monroe. (60)
- Committee Appointments. (61)

ADJOURNMENT. (61)



CHAIRMAN DOYLE G. BERRY: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Dr. St. Amant is the first man to the podium, I believe.

DR. LYLE S. ST. AMANT: Do you want to approve the minutes or anything first?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. We need to have a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

MR. DONALD F. WILLE: I move.

MR. JERRY JONES: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille and seconded by Mr. Jones. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

DR. ST. AMANT: Mr. Chairman, we have six items today. All of them are renewals of existing permits, which have been in effect and have operated satisfactorily. I shall read them off one at a time.

The first is a request by Charles H. Lawrence, Jr. for the renewal of a permit to remove sand and gravel from the Mississippi River



between Mile 406 and Mile 417, along the Togo Island Bar and adjacent to land owned by the applicant. This permit has been in effect for five or six years. We have had no problems with it. It is not an environmental problem, and I would recommend it be renewed for one year at five cents per yard.

MR. MARC DUPUY, JR.: I so move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Dupuy, seconded by Mr. Wille. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Charles H. Lawrence, Jr. to remove sand and gravel from the



Mississippi River between Mile 406.0 and Mile 417.0, AHP, along the Togo Island Bar and adjacent to land owned by the applicant, for a period of one year from January 27, 1977 to January 27, 1978.

DR. ST. AMANT: The second item is a request from Atlas Construction Company for the renewal of their permit to dredge fill material from the Mississippi River in the vicinity of Station 1941+00 and 1840+00 in Plaquemines Parish. This permit has been in effect for some years. It has operated satisfactorily. It has not been a problem and I would recommend we renew the permit for one year at five cents per yard.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.

MR. JEAN LAPEYRE: I so move.

MR. HARVEY CLAY LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Lapeyre, seconded by Mr. Luttrell. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?





(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made  
a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the  
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries  
Commission does hereby grant permis-  
sion to Atlas Construction Company,  
Inc. to dredge for fill material from  
the Mississippi River in the vicinity  
of CS 1941+00 to CS 1840+00 in Plaque-  
mines Parish, Louisiana, for a period  
of one year from December 18, 1976 to  
December 18, 1977, at a royalty rate of  
five cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: Number three is another  
request from the Atlas Construction Company for  
renewal of their permit to dredge between Mile  
134.3 and Mile 136.0 Above the Head of the Passes,  
St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana. This per-  
mit has been active for several years. It has been  
satisfactory and there have been no environmental



problems. I would recommend that we renew the permit for one year at five cents.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do I have a motion?

MR. LAPEYRE: I move.

MR. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Lapeyre, seconded by Mr. Luttrell. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Atlas Construction Company, Inc. to dredge for fill material from the Mississippi River left descending bank between Mile 134.3 and Mile 136.0 Above the Head of the Passes, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, for a



period of one year from December 18, 1976 to December 18, 1977, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: The fourth item is a third request from Atlas Construction Company for renewal of permit to remove sand and fill material from the Mississippi River at Mile 148.5 AHP on the left descending bank, near Lutchter, Louisiana. This permit has been in effect and there have been no problems. I would recommend it be renewed for one year at five cents.

MR. LUTTRELL: I so move.

MR. LAPEYRE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell and seconded by Mr. Lapeyre. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the



Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Atlas Construction Company Inc. to remove sand, gravel and fill material from the Mississippi River at Mile 148.5 AHP, left descending bank, near Lutchter, at Paulina, St. James Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from December 18, 1976 to December 18, 1977.

DR. ST. AMANT: Five is a request from T. L. James & Company for renewal of their permit to remove sand, gravel and fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank, near Boothville, for use in construction of Fort Jackson to Venice Highway. This permit has been in effect since the beginning of construction on the highway and it has been no problem. I would recommend that we continue the permit for one year at five cents per yard.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. May I have a motion?

MR. WILLE: I will move.



MR. DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille,  
seconded by Mr. Dupuy. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made  
a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the  
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries  
Commission does hereby grant permis-  
sion to T. L. James & Company, Inc.  
to remove sand, gravel and fill mater-  
ials from the Mississippi River, right  
descending bank, near Boothville, for  
use in construction of Fort Jackson to  
Venice Highway, from December 21, 1976  
to December 21, 1977.

DR. ST. AMANT: The final one is another  
request from T. L. James & Company for renewal of  
permit to remove fill material from the Profit



Island Chute on the Mississippi River in East Baton Rouge Parish. This permit has been in effect for several years. It is no problem and we would recommend it be continued for one year at five cents a yard.

THE CHAIRMAN: We need another motion, gentlemen.

MR. WILLE: So move.

MR. DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille, seconded by Mr. Dupuy. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to T. L. James & Company, Inc. for renewal of permit to remove fill



material from the Profit Island Chute on the Mississippi River in East Baton Rouge Parish, for a period of one year from December 18, 1976 to December 18, 1977, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dr. St. Amant. Mr. Yancey? Oh, Mr. Ensminger, are you ready? Dick has stepped out for a minute.

MR. ALLAN ENSMINGER: Mr. Chairman, the only item I have for your consideration today is the ratification of action taken around the 10th of January regarding a right-of-way extension for the South Louisiana Tidal Water Control Levee District.

What had occurred here, this Board came to us about a year and a half ago and got a right-of-way across the eastern edge of our Pointe au Chien Wildlife Management Area in Lafourche Parish for the purpose of constructing a hurricane protection levee in the area around Galliano. They had let the contract and the contractor was in and started to work and started experiencing failure to



the existing protection levee back of this residential area, and they came to us with a very serious problem of having to increase the size of the right-of-way so that they could get back away from the existing levee and not jeopardize its failure.

This will involve about 180 feet of additional right-of-way that will be granted to this public agency and I would recommend that the action taken by the Board be ratified with regard to the right-of-way.

THE CHAIRMAN: You said 80 feet, not 180 feet, is that right?

MR. ENSMINGER: I think it is 180.

MR. LUTTRELL: Eighty.

THE CHAIRMAN: Eighty additional feet?

MR. ENSMINGER: Eighty additional feet,  
O. K.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.

MR. LUTTRELL: I so move.

MR. JONES: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell,





seconded by Mr. Jones. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made  
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild  
Life and Fisheries Commission has  
granted a right-of-way to the South  
Louisiana Tidal Water Control Levee  
District, and

WHEREAS, it was determined  
that the contractor could not adequately  
construct the necessary levee within the  
right-of-way boundary granted, and

WHEREAS, this work is being done  
as a public service to the residents of  
this portion of the State,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED  
that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fish-  
eries Commission does hereby grant to



the South Louisiana Tidal Water Control Levee District a new right-of-way covering properties along the eastern boundary of the Pointe au Chien Wildlife Management Area, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director is hereby authorized to sign all documents pertaining to this matter.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Allan. Dick.

MR. RICHARD K. YANCEY: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, the first item I have on the agenda would authorize the payment of \$14,384 to Ducks Unlimited for the purpose of maintaining and developing breeding grounds for migratory waterfowl in Canada. This would be the final payment on the sale of the '75-76 basic hunting licenses here in Louisiana. We all know Act 81 of the '76 legislative session stipulates that 10 percent of that basic hunting license revenue will be used for the purpose of developing marshes and wetland areas in Canada for waterfowl production.

This final payment would bring about a



total of \$164,384 from the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission for this purpose on the sale of the '75-76 hunting licenses.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation. Do we have a motion?

MR. LUTTRELL: So move.

MR. DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell and seconded by Mr. Dupuy. All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, Act 81 of the 1976 Legislative Session indicates ten percent of the hunting license revenue for the development and preservation of breeding grounds for migratory waterfowl is to be expended for such purposes through Ducks Unlimited and



WHEREAS, a final payment of \$14,384 is due to Ducks Unlimited on the sale of the 1975-76 basic resident hunting licenses,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby authorize the issuance of a check to Ducks Unlimited in the amount of \$14,384 to be used for the purpose of developing, maintaining and preserving breeding grounds for migratory waterfowl in the prairie provinces of western Canada, particularly Saskatchewan, parts of Manitoba and Alberta that supply ducks to Louisiana, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this will be the final payment on the sale of the 1975-76 basic resident hunting licenses.

MR. YANCEY: During the summer of '76 the Commission purchased a 6000-acre Sunk Lake tract in Concordia Parish and made it a part of the



Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area. There is a camp on that property that is owned by Mr. T. J. Guido of Natchez. He states that he would like to donate that camp to the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, to be used for whatever purposes it may wish.

The camp is valued at about \$8,100. It is 1,200 square feet. It is a frame construction. We had Peter Duffy, our Commission attorney, look at the proposed donation and he states that it is in order. We would recommend that the Commission accept the donation. The chances are what we will probably do is move this camp down to the south end of the Game Management Area and use it as a patrol headquarters for the personnel that are working on the area.

We would recommend that the Commission accept the donation.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.

MR. LAPEYRE: I so move.

MR. DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Lapeyre,



seconded by Mr. Dupuy. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made  
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, on May 18, 1976, the  
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Com-  
mission purchased from Charles G. Lee,  
Sr. and others a tract of land located  
in Concordia Parish, Louisiana, to be  
incorporated within Three Rivers Game  
Management Area, and

WHEREAS, T. J. Guido and his  
wife Doris B. Guido desire to donate  
to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries  
Commission their camp, together with all  
of the appliances, furnishings, all  
related outbuildings and equipment  
located on the tract of land recently  
acquired by the Louisiana Wild Life and



Fisheries Commission, which said improvements have been described on Exhibit A attached and appraised at the sum of \$8,100.00; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission deems it to the best interest of the said Commission to accept the donation of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Guido to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission of their campsite, improvements, appliances, furnishings, equipment and related outbuildings located on the tract of land recently acquired by the Commission,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission formally accepts the act of donation presented by Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Guido to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission of their campsite, the appliances, furnishings and all related outbuildings and equipment and that J. Burton Angelle, Director,



be and he is authorized, empowered and directed to act for and on the behalf of and in the name of this Commission to accept the said donation hereinabove described and to sign any and all necessary deeds and documents and to incorporate and to include in said documents any and all stipulations, conditions and provisions as he, in his sole discretion, deems to be to the best interest of the Commission.

MR. DUPUY: Mr. Yancey, before you go on, are you familiar with the status of a donation of a camp for the Grassy Lake Wildlife Management Area?

MR. YANCEY: No, I am not. I have heard some conversation about this but I haven't seen anything in writing about it.

MR. DUPUY: An offer had been made and I was just wondering of the progress we are making on that.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: From Roussel?

MR. DUPUY: Yes.





DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Yes, that has been handled.

MR. HERRING: That was approved about two months ago. We went ahead and accepted it and it was approved.

MR. DUPUY: Did he sign an act of donation for this?

MR. HERRING: As I recall, we gave him the appropriate letters and everything.

MR. DUPUY: Thank you very much.

MR. YANCEY: The third item pertains to the plan of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to use steel shot in certain designated areas in the Mississippi Flyway during the forthcoming waterfowl hunting season. Of course steel shot was used this winter in certain parts of the Atlantic Flyway for the purposes of reducing lead poisoning problems in migratory waterfowl.

Now this plan for Louisiana calls for the use of steel shot in Cameron, Calcasieu and Vermilion Parishes and also in Central Louisiana in and around Catahoula Lake. 16-gauge, 20-gauge shotguns would be exempt.



Thirdly, the comment period, public comment period will on --

THE CHAIRMAN: Dick, excuse me. You have an important phone call. If you will take the phone call, I will continue on and we will come back to this. They need you on the phone.

Who is handling Kenneth Smith's part this morning?

MR. BENNY FONTENOT: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, I have here a request from Delta Exploration Company to conduct a seismicographic survey on Lake D'Arbonne.

Our technical personnel have looked at this operation they are proposing fairly closely and our personnel along with Kenneth Smith see no harm in their operation to aquatic life or fish, so we would like to recommend that they be able to go ahead and do this.

THE CHAIRMAN: We were told yesterday that these shot points will be 120 feet below the surface of the lake and will not cause any damage, they assured us. The State does not own the lake bottoms; it is owned by I guess whoever built the



lake, so we really don't have much say-so about it except to protect the fish and they have assured us they won't destroy the fish.

We have heard the recommendation. Do I have a motion?

MR. WILLE: I move.

MR. DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille and seconded by Mr. Dupuy. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, Delta Exploration Company, Inc., domiciled in Ruston, Louisiana, has requested permission to conduct a seismograph survey across a portion of Lake D'Arbonne in Union Parish, one shot line being in Sections 5 and 8 and another shot line



being in Section 15, all in Township 20 N, Range 1 E, involving an estimated 16 shot holes, and

WHEREAS, assurances have been given no surface damage will occur as a result of the seismic detonations underground, reducing any possibility of fish kill,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission hereby approves the above-mentioned application for seismic operation provided Delta Exploration Company gives two weeks notice prior to the beginning of the operation to the District Fisheries Biologist in Monroe in order to provide sufficient time for the biologist to accompany the seismograph crew.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, sir. Mr. O'Neil.

MR. TED O'NEIL: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Commission, I have one request here for



an extension of the trapping season on certain areas in Vermilion Parish, muskrat and nutria trapping season, by the McIlhenny Company. I went out and examined. We had this request last year but we looked at the property and decided it could possibly last one more year without damage to the environment or the habitat.

We had this request this year and I went out and looked at it. Our biologist has been working on the area, making all types of studies that we need to be made on a real fine muskrat habitat, which we don't have too many areas of that type in the state today. The nutria have destroyed so much of it. I have examined the area and there is some of the most beautiful rat ground there now that you could imagine and the nutria have begun to take over. They are moving in on them.

I am recommending that we give a 15-day extension to the trapping season to see if they can protect the habitat and the property.

MR. WILLE: I move.

MR. JONES: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: We have a motion, seconded



by Mr. Jones. Is there any discussion?

(No response)

All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made  
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the trapping season on  
all furbearers in Louisiana for 1976-77  
as set by the Louisiana Wild Life and  
Fisheries Commission ends on February 28,  
1977, and

WHEREAS, an overpopulation of  
muskrat and nutria is evident on the  
Christian Tract, Vermilion Parish,  
bounded on the east by McIlhenny Canal,  
on the north by Belle Isle Bayou, on  
the west by Belle Isle Island, and on  
the south by Cross Canal, located in  
T 15 S, R 2 E, and



WHEREAS, additional time to trap this section is needed to prevent habitat destruction brought about by the eating, nest-building and burrowing habits of these animals; and

WHEREAS, this section of prime "three-cornered grass" habitat, if destroyed by overpopulation, would require 10 to 15 years of ecological secession before returning to production, cutting the annual income of 10 to 15 families and affecting the overall economy of the fur industry;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby extend the trapping season 15 days beyond February 28, 1977, on the Christian Tract, Vermilion Parish, bounded on the east by McIlhenny Canal, on the north by Belle Isle Bayou, on the west by Belle Isle Island, and on the south by Cross Canal, located in T 15 S, R 2 E.



THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ted. Joe.

MR. JOE HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The first item we have pertains to National Wildlife Week, which this year is March 20-26, 1977. The theme is "We All Need Clean Water." We passed out yesterday some of the kits that are available to teachers, wildlife clubs, civic club and others to use during this pretty important week to us as wildlife people. We have some more over here for the press and others who would like to take some home with them or give them out there to use in whatever way they should see fit.

I would like to say that this a project every year that is sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation as well as the state affiliates such as our Louisiana Wildlife Federation. Through this kit, as I was looking through it yesterday, you will find there are some very good materials in there that can be used by the various wildlife clubs, school groups and others for use in their wildlife studies or conservation studies they have.

I would like to recommend to the Commission at this time that we do recognize March 20-26,





1977, as National Wildlife Week and that a resolution be attached to the minutes providing that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do I have a motion?

MR. DUPUY: I so move.

MR. LAPEYRE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Dupuy, seconded by Mr. Lapeyre. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, National Wildlife Week will be held March 20-26, 1977, and

WHEREAS, the theme for 1977 is "We All Need Clean Water," and

WHEREAS, National Wildlife Week each year is sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation and its state-affiliated groups, and

WHEREAS, kits are provided



for teachers, wildlife groups, civic organizations and others interested in wildlife project work, and

WHEREAS, material furnished this year provides excellent instructional materials for those interested in participating in wildlife projects,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission recognizes March 20-26, 1977 as National Wildlife Week and will assist in its support for promoting this important week for all concerned with the natural resources of our state.

MR. HERRING: The next item we have on the agenda pertains to our Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area timber contract No. 180-4-49 to Monroe, Godfrey and Givens Timber Company of West Monroe, Louisiana. This contract will terminate this month for some 500 acres that we had put out for bid and they did receive the high bid to cut this timber. It is a cull type operation.

However, due to some problems we had on



Russell Sage, asking them not to cut timber at various times because of the conditions of the soil on the area, we would like now to give them an extension on the contract to November 15 to give them the summer months here to get the timber out.

The contractors cutting there have been very cooperative with us on the area and at different times when we have asked them not to cut, they have curtailed their activities, pulled out and been very cooperative, so I would like to recommend to the Commission that we extend that contract.

THE CHAIRMAN: Let me comment at this time, as I did yesterday, Joe, for the benefit of the press and others here, a year or so ago we had some of the local people up there on that area who were violently opposed to the cutting we were doing up there, timber cutting, and suggested to me that it was ruining the forest, destroying everything, and that our forestry man didn't know what he was doing, and on and on and on, with calls to the local political people up there.

So, with the Director's approval and Joe's approval, we got together and we called in a



man from Arkansas, who is their forestry man, and we called a man from Mississippi, and got them to check what we were doing up there and look it over, and they both agreed with the forest manager that that was the way to handle it, that it was the best management of the forest for wildlife. I think you have done a real fine job up there.

Gentlemen, we have Mr. Herring's recommendation.

MR. DUPUY: I so move.

MR. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Dupuy, seconded by Mr. Luttrell. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has a contract for the purpose of making an



improvement cut by selection of timber on the Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area with Monroe, Godfrey and Givens Timber Company, West Monroe, Louisiana, which terminates in January of 1977, and

WHEREAS, this contract is known as Number 180-4-49 and pertains to 500 acres of forest land on the Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, due to conditions beyond the contractor's control which included public sentiment and rutting up the woods during inclement weather, and

WHEREAS, the contractor was very cooperative with the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission when asked to curtail his cutting practices,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission extend the timber cutting contract Number 180-4-49 to



Monroe, Godfrey and Givens Timber Company, West Monroe, Louisiana, until November 15, 1977.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, I think that would go along with what we heard yesterday from Mr. Bill Matthews and the people who were with him from the Louisiana Forestry Association, trying to encourage us to cut more timber off these areas, which we are very much in favor of. It has just been the problem of getting a contractor to bid on some of the hardwood timber. But it does go along with what they want us to do on some of our areas.

The next item, Mr. Chairman, was left off in typing this morning but it was discussed yesterday, pertaining to the extension of the trapping season on our Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area.

We do have a 68-day trapping season on the area. We have a 25-day season on there that sportsmen can use dogs and hunt raccoons at night. The trapping season is much longer than the hunting season. We have had requests from both sides. The hunters would like to go ahead and stop the



trapping season February 6 because right after that then we open up the dog season for the people to get in and hunt at night, so there is a conflict of interest on the area.

At this time I would recommend to the Commission that we leave the season as set, the trapping season December 1 through February 6, go ahead and continue as is, and the hunting season for dogs on there continue as it has been set and leave the recommendations as they stood at the first of the season.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you have any other recommendations? Motion?

MR. DUPUY: Do we need a motion to not extend? Can't we just leave it as is without that?

MR. HERRING: That is my recommendation, to leave it as is, leave it as set.

MR. DUPUY: I am asking if we need a motion.

MR. LUTTRELL: I move we accept Mr. Herring's recommendation.

MR. DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: All in favor say aye.



IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made  
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, requests have been  
received for the extension of the  
present trapping season on our Russell  
Sage Wildlife Management Area, which  
is December 1 through February 6, 1977,  
for 68 days, and

WHEREAS, requests have been  
received from the raccoon hunters not  
to extend the trapping season on Russell  
Sage, and

WHEREAS, the hunting season  
on Russell Sage is for a 25-day period,  
October 30 through November 14 and  
February 12 through February 20,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED  
that the requests to keep the season





as set is recommended by the Chief of the Game Division, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in setting the 1977-78 seasons that any additional days could possibly be worked out with concerned groups.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next item we have pertains to our Pearl River Wildlife Management Area and some rules and regulations drawn up pertaining to the nature trail that is being established on that area.

As you will recall, last year the members of the Sierra Club did meet here with the Commission for the encouragement of a nature trail on Russell Sage and they volunteered to work on it themselves and also have a consultant help identify many of the plants there. In turn, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission would make up the signs and placards and various things for this trail, directing the people how to get around on it, signs on identification of trees and other plants on this trail. They are going to put out a publication for those who are using the trail



so that they would have a map of the area, showing where the trail did go through the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area, and streams in there and more or less a complete identification of the trail.

However, we feel that in doing this we would have a minimum amount of restrictions on that, to keep the trail where it would be of interest to the public from now on out. Those little rules would be (1) prohibit the cutting, breaking or collecting of leaves or plants and so on this trail. If there were some school class out on the area and they were out for some collecting trip there, we would provide another area on the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area where they could collect the same type of plant and things that would be on the trail, so it would not provide any hardship for any educational groups that were out there.

The second recommendation we would have is no picnicking on the trail itself. Mainly this would be to keep any debris and trash and anything from being thrown on the trail there, that anyone using the trail should take any debris they have



to one of the authorized disposal areas that we have on Pearl River.

THE CHAIRMAN: Joe, let me interrupt and ask you something here. Do we have any picnic facilities, tables of any sort in this area?

MR. HERRING: Not any tables as such. We do have picnic or camping areas established on it. We have primitive areas on this as well as we do all of our wildlife management areas.

THE CHAIRMAN: If we are going to have any groups of school kids going through there, it might be a good idea if we can to get some civic organization, be it the Chamber of Commerce or whoever, to get a project going and provide a few park benches and a few tables where kids can eat their sandwiches or whatever.

MR. HERRING: On some of the areas we have made them out of concrete, too, so they can't move them off too easily.

THE CHAIRMAN: I know some who can steal those, too!

MR. HERRING: I think we can take care of these. Yes, they will take those, too. Most



of these camping areas, that is how come we are using primitive areas on wildlife management areas, because at various times we have tried to establish barbecue grills and things like this on some of the areas, and if you don't have someone there watching them 24 hours a day, people carry them off, break them up and just destroy them, so that is why we have just kept all of the areas more or less primitive.

The third recommendation would be no horses, bikes or motorized vehicles to be permitted on the nature trail.

The fourth one, no dogs or firearms permitted except as specified in the wildlife management area regulations.

The fifth recommendation would be for hunting season use, we are recommending to the people using the trail that they wait until after at least nine-thirty in the morning to give the hunters time to get out of the woods and get their little morning hunt over with before they start using the trail, and also, should they use the trail then, that they use hunter orange vests the



same as the hunters do, should they be walking the trail during the hunting season.

That would be our recommendations on that. Mr. Chairman, I would like to say, if we establish these areas on any of our other wildlife management areas and get out such a path, I would also recommend that these same rules apply to future nature trails that we establish on wildlife management areas.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation of Mr. Herring. Do I have a motion?

MR. LAPEYRE: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Lapeyre. May I have a second?

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Wille. All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the



resolution is here made  
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Sierra Club has met in the past with the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission for the purpose of establishing a nature trail on the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, this nature trail will be a joint venture between the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and the Sierra Club, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has now erected the signs and the Sierra Club is completing the printed guide, and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that certain rules and regulations be established for this trail, and

WHEREAS, these rules are as follows:

1. Cutting, breaking or collecting leaves, plants, etc. is absolutely



prohibited. The Commission will, however, provide educational groups conducting sponsored field trips into the area with a written permit to collect leaves and other plant material for permanent study collections. All such permitted collections will be made from the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area away from the marked trail.

No one is authorized to give you oral permission to collect.

2. No picnicking on the trail. This does not apply to the parking area, however, no garbage disposal will be provided and you should take your own trash back to an authorized disposal area.
3. No horses, bikes or motorized vehicles are permitted on the nature trail.
4. No dogs or firearms permitted except as specified in wildlife management



area regulations.

5. Hunting season use: Some kind of hunting season is open on the area usually from the first Saturday in October until mid-January, and a turkey season is usually held during portions of March and April. During squirrel and turkey seasons it is suggested that you not use the trail before 9:30 a.m. During the gun hunting season for deer you need to wear the highly visible hunter orange outer garments that are required as a safety measure for deer hunters. See Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Regulations published annually by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission adopts these rules and regulations to assure the maximum benefit for all users of the trail and that





the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission adopt these same rules on other wildlife management areas operated by the Commission.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. DUPUY: Joe, before you leave, just a minute. The only publication that I have found on trails in wildlife management areas in the state is by the Delta Chapter of the Sierra Club. The publication that is being prepared by Wild Life and Fisheries on trails identification, can you give us a little bit of information on that.

MR. HERRING: It is being prepared also by the Sierra Club. They agreed when they were in here about three months ago, and Robert Murray, who used to be an employee of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, is preparing it for them. As I understand, they have it ready for publication now, they are ready to put it out, and these will be distributed to people who are using the trail from our headquarters area supervisor or other employees on the management area itself. On the other areas where we have trails we do not



have a publication of this type. This will be the only one we will have a publication put out on.

MR. DUPUY: O. K., thank you.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Joe, you said you are preparing a publication for rules and regulations dealing with these trails on our wildlife management area. Are you going to document this? This was brought up at the meeting yesterday and just today and the members are being asked to pass judgment on them now without giving them some prior information.

MR. HERRING: These rules and regulations are in the pamphlet being prepared now by the Sierra Club for the trails on the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: And they are going to apply to all of them?

MR. HERRING: That is what I was asking. Should we establish trails on the other areas, the same rules and regulations will apply to the other areas, too.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Well, I would suggest that the rules and regulations dealing with the



regulating of trails on one management area or two or three, that there be a document prepared for the Commission's consideration and give them an opportunity to look at it, instead of within 30 minutes giving them the rules and regulations and then adopt them and then maybe have to start amending them later on. That is what I am asking.

MR. HERRING: We can do that.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Maybe give them a little more consideration.

MR. HERRING: These are pretty broad here, to cover just about anything, to keep people from doing any damage and give our area supervisor or personnel working on the area some leverage there should people actually be doing damage to the trails there. It is, we realize, going to be hard to possibly enforce these, somebody would have to be there all the time, but it would give him something to work with.

MR. LAPEYRE: How many other trails do we have?

MR. HERRING: We only have about three others but we have no publication. We just have



trails established.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: No rules and regulations on any one of them?

MR. HERRING: No, sir.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: And this one applies only for the purpose of satisfying the request for the Pearl River Game Management Area.

MR. HERRING: That's right. But should we come up and do this on other areas, we should have some type of rules and regulations for those other areas, too.

MR. LAPEYRE: Why couldn't we use this as a sort of experimental group and if they work out without problem, then if you wish to add to it, you can do that.

MR. HERRING: We can do that.

THE CHAIRMAN: I just can't see where this simple set of five rules is so darned complicated. They are pretty explicit, I think, and I think everybody agrees they are more or less standard, plain little rules anybody would have on a path like that, and I think we are whipping a dog to death for nothing. We can talk about it



some more if you want to.

MR. DUPUY: They will apply to all the management areas.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Joe.

MR. HERRING: O. K., thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Yancey, I don't believe you were through a while ago.

MR. YANCEY: This item on the agenda is mainly here for just the purpose of making an announcement of what the federal plan is for the use of steel shot in certain parts of Louisiana for waterfowl hunting during the forthcoming season of '77-78, which basically states in the Federal Register that if you are going to hunt ducks, geese and coots you are going to have to use steel shot in Cameron, Calcasieu, Vermilion Parishes and in the Catahoula Lake area.

Now the position of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission was established back in the latter part of 1974 and copies of the position statement were sent in to the Interior Department. It more or less recognized the fact that lead



poisoning is a serious problem in waterfowl mortality, but it goes on to state that when you go to another type of shot, a non-toxic shot, that its use should be required only in problem areas, and it strongly urged that the use of steel shot be required only in problem areas, so the Commission is already on record. We are not calling for any additional action at this time. We are just bringing it out mainly for public information that this plan is published in the Register and the comment period will remain in effect until the end of this month, so if any of the waterfowl hunters in the state want to offer a comment about the plan, they should get a letter into the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service by January 31.

The Fish and Wildlife Service is publishing a brochure that explains in detail just what the problems are with waterfowl ingestion of lead shot. They state here that between 1.6 and 2.4 million ducks die each year from lead poisoning, picking up lead pellets while feeding, and that others are weakened by picking up these lead shots, and that lead shot pellets are being deposited by



waterfowl hunters at a rate of 3,000 tons per year in the United States, and this is the reason they have come forward with this steel shot requirement.

Basically that is where we stand at this time.

MR. DUPUY: This is just for informational purposes; we don't need to take any action at this time?

MR. YANCEY: Our position is clear. It was established in 1974.

MR. JONES: What is the Flyway Council's position on this?

MR. YANCEY: Well, basically what the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission is. It recognizes that lead poisoning is a serious waterfowl mortality problem and something should be done about it. There is a drastic need because we have got this heavy drain on the waterfowl population each year. Still, most of the states are calling for the use of steel shot or a non-toxic shot only in areas where lead poisoning is a problem and not in areas where it is not a problem. In some areas, particularly here in the coastal marshes of



Louisiana, we have organic bottoms in these marshes and ponds and lakes and we don't think ducks are picking up any quantity of lead shot in the marshes. They are not using the type of feed there that is normally associated with lead poisoning. On top of that, probably only five percent, five or six percent of the ducks in this marsh area are the species that we have a lead poisoning problem with. Mallards are the main species that we have a lead shot problem with, whereas in our coastal marshes you have got your green and blue-wing teal and widgeon and gadwall. The birds that make up the bulk of the population there do not pick up large quantities of lead shot.

THE CHAIRMAN: Dick, do I understand the feds propose this just in the three parishes now?

MR. YANCEY: Cameron, Calcasieu and Vermilion plus the central Louisiana area around Catahoula Lake. That is published in the Federal Register as their plan for Louisiana.

MR. JONES: What are the Canadian people doing?

MR. YANCEY: At this point they are not





doing -- they have been working on developing a shot other than steel. They call it a centered shot that is half lead and half iron which so far is showing some promise, but they haven't closed any areas to the use of lead shot yet.

MR. LAPEYRE: As a matter of action by the Commission in response to this, would it not be a good idea for us to make a public announcement of some sort to the effect that waterfowl hunters should get their comments in, any they may wish to make, within the period that we still have available?

MR. YANCEY: That's right. In other words, that is the purpose of this whole discussion.

MR. LAPEYRE: The general public may not be aware of this.

MR. YANCEY: They probably are not aware of it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Also, Dick, as the Director pointed out yesterday, this only applies to 12 gauge guns, does not apply to guns under the size of 12 gauge, this year.

MR. YANCEY: That's right. The steel



shot will be only available in 12 gauges, and consequently the ban is being applied only against that gauge. It won't apply to 16 or 20 gauge or 14.

THE CHAIRMAN: Sounds a little discriminatory to me. It will make somebody go buy a new shotgun.

MR. LUTTRELL: Dick, I agree with the Belrose report that those areas where it says steel shot zones are those areas in which hunting activity and the resulting lead deposits are most concentrated, and I can't agree that the coastal zones, because of the composition of the bottoms, have a great deal to do with it. In the Belrose report he says that we will not see dead birds in those areas because when they become ill they hunt hiding places and are picked up by, like he says, alligators and other animals and you just don't see them.

I know and I agree with them that lead shot is a problem, but I don't think it is a problem in just one small area. I believe it is just like Mr. Belrose says, it becomes a problem in any



area in which the hunting is concentrated and heavy.

So, if we are going to have to suffer this thing, I heartily recommend that we let all those areas that have a concentrated hunting of waterfowl be included in the steel shot zone. Other than that I have no objection, but I don't think we should just designate one small area, because there are many areas in Louisiana; Louisiana is a very high kill state, one of the highest kill states in the entire United States, and I feel like we should treat all the areas exactly the same.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other comments? Thank you, Dick.

Gentlemen, we will set the date for the February meeting. It will be Thursday, the 24th, and Friday, the 25th. That has been moved because of Mardi Gras, which made conflicting dates, and we can get the town and city cleaned up here.

Also, as soon as the meeting is over, on the 25th, we will set the date for hearing on appeal.

The first hearing on gill netting is February 9 in Lake Charles. Will that be at the



Wild Life Building in Lake Charles?

MRS. PENDLEY: It will be at the Parish Government Building.

THE CHAIRMAN: It will be at the Parish Government Building.

The public meeting in Monroe has been set for May 24 and 25, but due to some conflict it has been changed to May 13 and 14, which is a Friday and Saturday. You might want to note that.

MR. DUPUY: Say that again, please, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: The dates for Monroe have been changed from the 24th and 25th to May 13 and 14, which is a Friday and Saturday, because the dates conflicted with other activities and it was requested of the Chairman he make these changes.

MR. DUPUY: That is the hearing for the

THE CHAIRMAN: Gill netting.

MR. DUPUY: No, no, Monroe is not gill netting. That is the hearings on the seasons.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seasons, I am sorry. I stand corrected. Dates for public input.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: And what is that date of the February meeting?



THE CHAIRMAN: The first gill netting meeting will be February 9.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: No, our regular Commission meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN: The 24th and 25th.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: And the hearing on the appeal is set for what date?

MRS. PENDLEY: The 25th. It will just take about an hour.

THE CHAIRMAN: I have been requested by certain members of this Board to name a committee for rules and regulations and the new reorganization. I would like to appoint Mr. Marc Dupuy as chairman, Jean Lapeyre and Sonny Gilbert as members. That is the committee for rules and regulations.

The committee for reorganization, I would like to appoint Mr. Sonny Gilbert as chairman, Mr. Marc Dupuy and Mr. Don Wille as members.

Is there any other business to come before the Commission this morning? If not, we stand adjourned.

. . . . Whereupon, at 10:55 o'clock

a.m., the meeting was adjourned. . . .

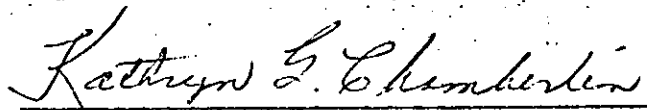
Kathryn G. Chamberlin, Reporter.



C E R T I F I C A T E

I, the undersigned reporter, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing ( 61 pages of typewritten matter) is a true and correct transcription of the tape recording and of the stenographic notes of the proceedings herein, transcribed by me, at the time and place hereinbefore noted.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 11th day of February, 1977.



Kathryn G. Chamberlin,  
Reporter.

